Appl. No. 10/725,110
Reply to Office Action of May 29, 2007

Response under 37 CFR §1.116 expedited
procedure . Examining Group: 2109 (MPEP
714.13)

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A method for logging a new user into a data processing
5   device with an operating system and an accessible element that is at least one of an application program and sensitive data, comprising the steps of:

   ending a first user's access to the accessible element without unloading or restarting the accessible element;

   determining authentication data for authenticating a second user;

10   defining an identity and access rights depending on the authentication data for the second user; and

   providing access, depending on the defined access rights, for at the accessible element, that has not been unloaded or restarted, by the second user.

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2. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

   displaying a user interface, depending on the defined access rights;

   performing a user switch process step that causes the method to begin again at the first step, content of a user interface remaining
20   unchanged until access rights have been defined again.

3. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the content of the user interface is reduced if the renewed definition of access rights defines a more limited scope than the previous definition allowed.

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4. (original) The method according to claim 3, further comprising:

generating a warning message indicating a reduction in content and that the user has an opportunity to begin the method at the first step again before the reduction.

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5. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

displaying a user interface in accordance with the access rights that are defined;

deleting, by a User Logout procedure, content of a user interface; and

10   starting the method from the first step again.

6. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

logging all access to the application program and all access to the sensitive data together with the respectively defined identity.

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7. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

activating a screen saver by a defined condition to make a user interface illegible; and

beginning the method from the first step again.

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8. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the defined condition is some amount of elapsed time.

9. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

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blocking all access rights based upon a failed attempt to authenticate a
user in the first step.

10. (currently amended) A computer system comprising:

5   a computer having a memory;

an accessible element that is at least one of an application program and
sensitive data that is accessible by a first user and a subsequent
second user without unloading or restarting the accessible element;

a program stored in a memory element of the computer memory
10   comprising:

a software module or algorithm for determining authentication data for
authenticating the second user with respect to the accessible
element;

a software module or algorithm for defining an identity and access rights
15   depending on the authentication data; and

a software module or algorithm for providing access, depending on the
defined access rights, for the accessible element.

11. (previously presented) A computer readable data storage media having a
20   program thereon that comprises:

a software module or algorithm for determining authentication data for
authenticating a user into a data processing device with an
operating system and an accessible element that is at least one of
an application program and sensitive data;

25   a software module or algorithm for defining an identity and access rights
depending on the authentication data; and

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a software module or algorithm for providing access by the user,

depending on the defined access rights, for the accessible element

subsequent to an access of the accessible element by a prior first

user without unloading or restarting the accessible element.

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